



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Ali Hussein Dakroub

DEARBORN MAN SENTENCED IN ATM ELECTRONIC SCAM

A Dearborn man was sentenced to one year and one day imprisonment for credit card fraud, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Ali Hussein Dakroub, 25, of Dearborn, was sentenced by United States District Judge Denise Page Hood on July 6, 2006.

Dakroub had pleaded guilty to two counts of credit card fraud committed about a year apart in 2004 and 2005. The first offense involved the placement of a phony card swiping device on local bank Automatic Teller Machines. The phony device recorded the information encoded on the magnetic strips of unsuspecting customers ATM cards when they swiped their cards through it. A small camera placed nearby enabled the defendant to observe the customers punching in their PINs. Defendant and his accomplice were located in a van in the bank parking lot and the camera was hooked up to a computer which assisted in retrieving the PINs as recorded by the camera. With this information, defendant and his accomplice were able to make counterfeit credit cards and access the customer's bank accounts. They obtained approximately \$79,000. The second offense involved defendant selling counterfeit

credit cards.

U.S. Attorney Murphy said, "When high tech tools are used to steal PIN numbers, the potential for large-scale fraud is dramatically increased. Fortunately, in this case, the U.S. Secret Service, which specializes in electronic crimes involving credit card fraud, had the skill and tenacity to successfully pursue this case, and the result is a prison sentence for the high tech criminal."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ross I. MacKenzie and was investigated by Special Agent Mark Nickerson of the U.S. Secret Service.